



North Sea
Transition
Authority

The NSTA's Vision for P&A



Performance and Progress

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**1. The NSTA's Role
in Well
Decommissioning**

**2. What's Out
There?**

**3. Performance and
Cost Update 2025**

4. What's Next?

**5. The Wells
Decommissioning
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The NSTA's Role in Well Decommissioning



Stewarding operators and reviewing P&A plans, to drive cost-effectiveness and deliver regulatory compliance



Identifying P&A campaign and collaboration opportunities and sharing good practice



Engaging with the supply chain to understand and help to address some of their needs and challenges



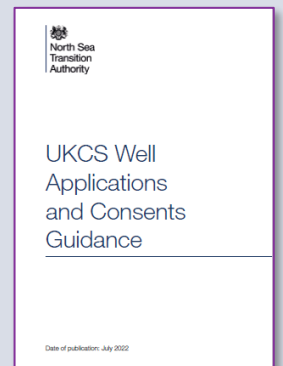
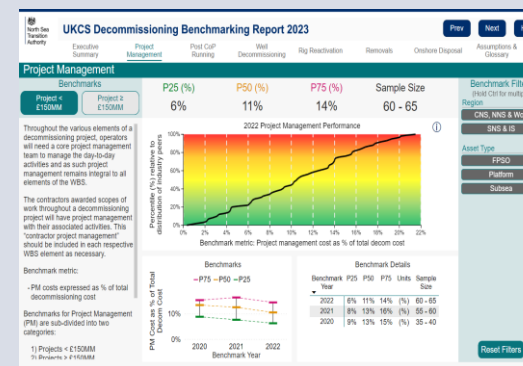
The NSTA manages well suspension and abandonment licence obligations (WONS consents and dates)



Gathering and analysing historical and forecasted data to develop benchmarks and tools for industry use



Working with operators and license holders to identify potential reuse and repurposing opportunities



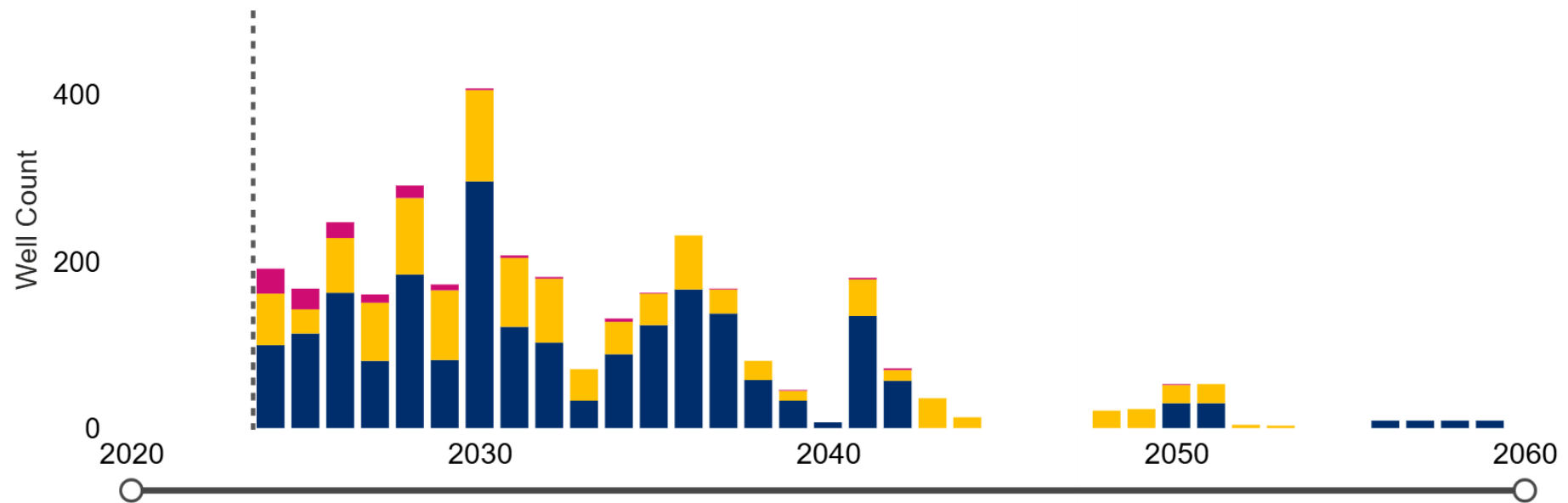
The UKCS has 3,426 wells to be decommissioned

Of which there are 7,249 unique wellbores

4,747 wells are already Abandoned Phase 3

Forecast inactive well decommissioning profile

● Platform Wells ● Subsea Wells ● Suspended E&A Wells



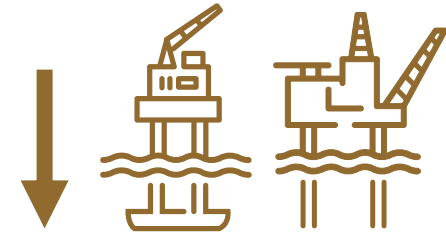
Well Decommissioning Key Messages



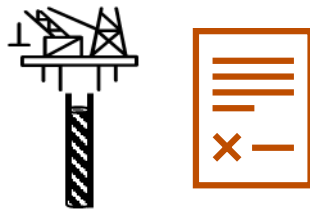
Cost Increase
~50% of decom costs



Deferred / delayed Activity
500 backlog wells



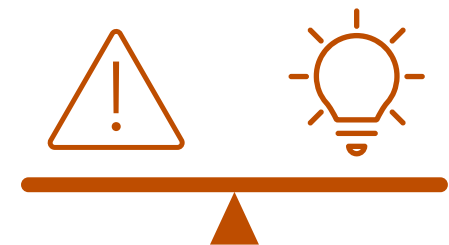
Supply Chain Challenges
Availability declining



Predictable & Sustainable
Commitment & contracts




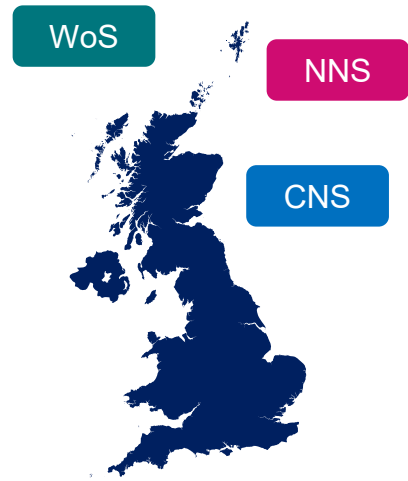
Strategic Actions Needed
Maximise potential through scale
& utilisation




Risk & Opportunity
A balance between these

Unable to fully execute P&A of inactive wells in 2026 - 2030 in line with current NSTA regulatory guidance and current supply chain capacity. Plan developed to combine these elements and provide a holistic, basin-wide view to help inform further industry engagement and action.


UKCS Well P&A Plan – Findings & Next Steps




Model/plan created, with multiple sources of data included and analysed



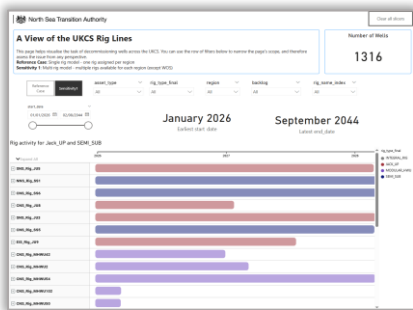
PBI dashboard with insights, static plan (& Gantt chart) with >1000 wells scheduled




Several multi-operator campaign opportunities identified, and engagements begun



Industry stewardship and regulation (consents) being informed by plan



Data Transparency & Potential Sanction Measures



Publish operator performance relating to delivery of well decom obligations, as part of transparency measures (4Q25)



Potential sanction measures for breaching license obligations (inc. P&A deferral)

Stakeholders



Constraints and drivers for **regulators, operators and supply chain** are complex and interlinked

Opportunity still exists to deliver cost-efficiencies, increased demand and surety, and legislative compliance

If no collective action taken, <50% of wells will be delivered and future costs likely to increase by >25%

The Wells Decommissioning Steering Group



WELLS
TASK
FORCE

Wells Decommissioning Steering Group



Well Delivery
Group

Reservoir and
Wells
Optimisation
Group

WDSG Members



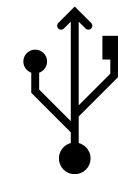
Delivered Initiatives



Good practice
guidelines



Direct input to the
NSTA Wells P&A
Area Plan



Regulatory and
technology
updates



Pilot of tree and
wellhead data tool
launched

RISERLESS LWIV P&A CAPABILITIES

The Well Decommissioning Steering Group (WDSG) identified that there could be better visibility and a better understanding of the capabilities of rigless solutions for subsea well P&A, whether that be standalone or in combination with a MODU. The group has kicked off the work scope by focusing on Riserless Light Well Intervention (RLWI) opportunities from Light Well Intervention Vessels (LWIVs). Please note that these webpages will be updated overtime based on industry feedback and lessons learned from upcoming subsea P&A campaigns.

Please use the following links to access a 'white board' highlighting the current and potential capabilities of RLWI from vessels, and a list of possible advantages and disadvantages. Please note that these may depend on the location and number of wells within a given workscope.

[CURRENT AND POTENTIAL CAPABILITIES](#)

[ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES](#)

Please use the following links to access number of example procedures (but are not limited to) c/w example well schematics. Please note that these procedures may be dependent on the complexity of the well.

[THROUGH-TUBING + ENVIRONMENTAL BARRIER EXAMPLE PROCEDURE](#)

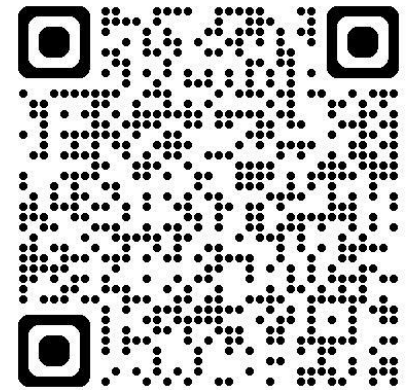
[EXAMPLE OPEN WATER + ENVIRONMENTAL BARRIER PROCEDURE](#)

[INTERMEDIATE PWC EXAMPLE PROCEDURE](#)

[E&A RE-ENTRY + ENVIRONMENTAL BARRIER AND E&A RE-ENTRY, PWC + ENVIRONMENTAL BARRIER EXAMPLE PROCEDURE](#)

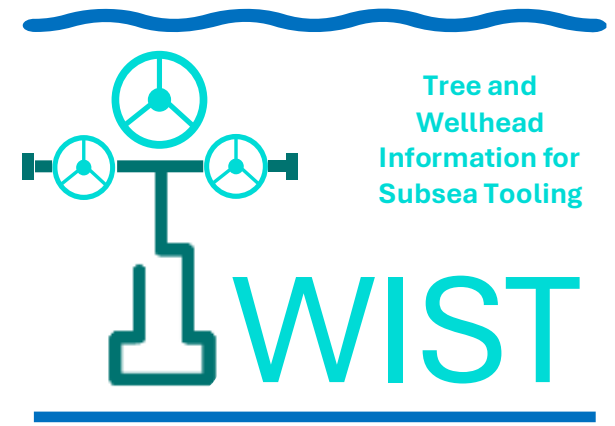
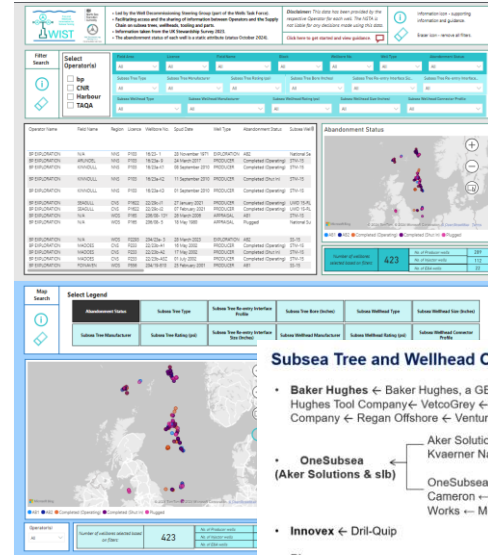
[PWC + ENVIRONMENTAL BARRIER EXAMPLE PROCEDURE](#)

SCAN ME



Tree and Wellhead Information for Subsea Tooling

- Led by the Wells Decommissioning Steering Group (WDSG), TWIST aims to be a publicly available dataset that collates wellhead and tree information for every subsea well in licensed acreage on the UKCS.
- TWIST will utilise data which is gathered from the UK Stewardship Survey (UKSS) and is then reviewed and 'cleaned' by the NSTA and the Operator to ensure correctness.
- Enables sharing of equipment and tooling information between/across Operators & Supply Chain.
- The main benefit is that costs and emissions can be reduced by making planning and execution more efficient. This can be achieved by avoiding manufacturing and finding of tooling and parts and by addressing potential uncertainties of wellhead and tree architecture during planning.
- Additional benefits include:
 - Accessible information on subsea trees, wellheads and tooling,
 - Retention and maintenance of tooling if it is known to be required in future,
 - Creates an opportunity to campaign based on available tooling,
 - Could avoid data being lost or inaccessible,
 - Collates industry knowledge for the next generation.

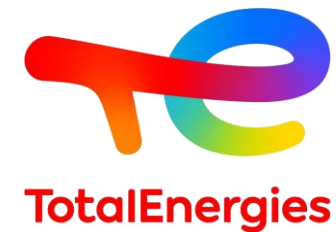
The screenshot shows the TWIST web application interface. At the top, there are search filters for 'Operator', 'Region', 'Wellhead', and 'Status'. Below the filters is a table with columns: Well Name, Region, Wellhead, Well Type, Measurement Date, and Subsea Well. The table contains several rows of data. To the right of the table is a map showing the location of the wells in the UKCS area. At the bottom, there is a legend for the map markers and a 'Map Search' section.

Subsea Tree and Wellhead Original Manufacturer (OEM) Lineage

- Baker Hughes ← Baker Hughes, a GE Company ← GE Oil & Gas ← ABB VetcoGray ← Hughes Tool Company ← VetcoGray ← Combustion Engineering ← Vetco ← Gray Tool Company ← Regan Offshore ← Ventura Tool Company
- OneSubsea (Aker Solutions & sib) ← Aker Solutions ← Aker Kvaerner ← Kvaerner Oilfield Products ← Kvaerner National ← National Oilwell Verco ← National ← Armo
- OneSubsea (Cameron & Schlumberger) ← Cameron ← Cooper Cameron ← Cooper Oil Tools ← Ingram Cactus ← Cameron Iron Works ← McEvoy ← Willis
- Innovex ← Drill-Quip
- Plexus
- TechnipFMC ← FMC Technologies ← FMC ← FMC Energy Systems ← OCT

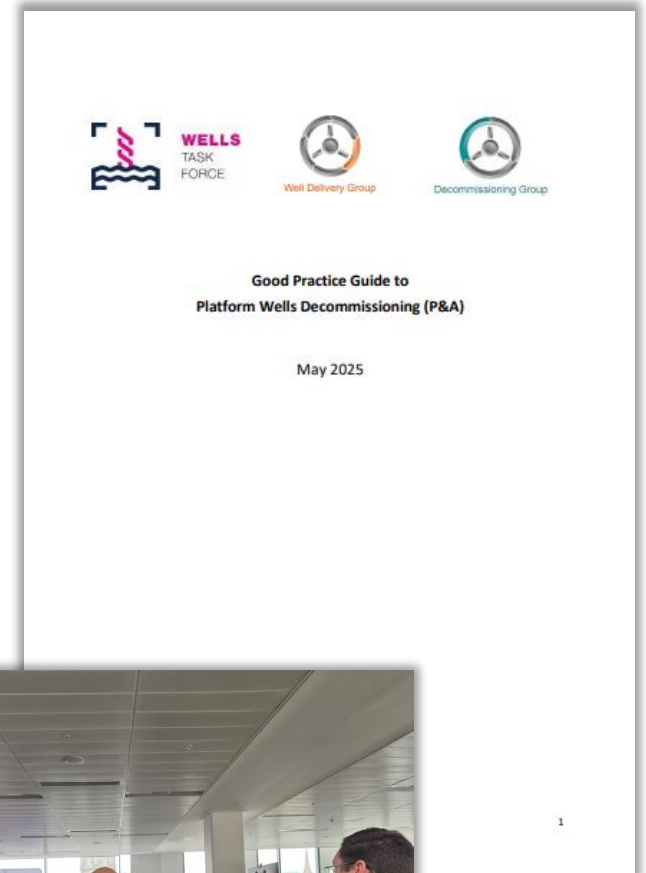
This OEM lineage has been derived from the knowledge and experience of the WDSG members and their colleagues, if you believe there is an inaccuracy please contact us.

936 Wells and Counting...



Platform and Subsea P&A Good Practice

- **Workshops led by the Wells Decommissioning Steering Group (WDSG),**
- Aiming to make widely available to industry current good practice and lessons learned that can be developed and added to overtime,
- Platform workshop hosted 63 attendees from 32 organisations,
- Themes focused on strategic alignment, planning and regulatory engagement and scheduling,
- Subsea workshop hosted ~80 attendees from 68 organisations,
- Themes focused on pre-P&A planning, AB1/2 and AB3,
- Next workshop and publication will focus on subsurface basis of design for P&A,
- Workshop also held on ‘Barriers to Barriers’,
- ‘Gauge Cable Coping Strategies’ planned for December 2025.



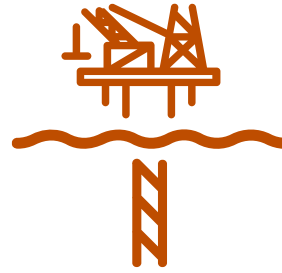
Summary



The NSTA is the regulator for well P&A



Plan developed to provide a holistic, basin-wide view to help inform further industry engagement and action



3,426 wells will need to be decommissioned in the future



The NSTA provide a variety to data tools to support efficient P&A Wells



Well P&A accounts for ~50% of forecast decommissioning expenditure



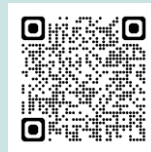
Ongoing opportunities to unlock efficiencies and good practice through industry collaboration



Decom Data & Tools

The North Sea Transition Forum (NSTF) is hosted and chaired by the NSTA and is the tripartite body which provides senior government and industry leadership for the offshore oil and gas industry.

It is made up of seven task forces, including two with a focus on subject matter including well decommissioning.



Wells Spatial Maps and Dashboards

View well data apps, maps and spatial tools, including the **Suspended Wells App** – detailing suspended open water exploration and appraisal wells and development wells on fields where production has stopped permanently.



Riserless LWIV P&A Capabilities

View the potential options for subsea P&A to be conducted riser-less from Light Well Intervention Vessels (LWIVs). The webpages contain information on capabilities, potential advantages and disadvantages and generic example procedures.



Data Visibility Dashboard

Using data from the annual UK Stewardship Survey, the dashboard shows quantities and weights of topsides and subsea infrastructure, and the wells, that companies plan to decommission over the next five years.



TWIST

The Tree and Wellhead Information for Subsea Tooling dashboard shares accessible information on subsea trees and wellheads, collating industry knowledge for the benefit of upcoming well decommissioning scopes.



National Data Repository (NDR)

The NDR – a key component of our wider Digital Energy Platform – is a treasure trove of offshore petroleum-related licence information which, in time, will also host carbon dioxide appraisal and storage licence records.



Public Wellbore Search

Use this tool to find information about registered wellbores and their mechanical status.



Energy Pathfinder

Energy Pathfinder provides visibility of upcoming tendering opportunities for UKCS energy production, emissions reduction and decommissioning projects for a range of systems, including oil and gas, offshore wind, CCS and hydrogen.



Wells Insight Report

This report aims to facilitate cost-effective drilling activity, improve the management of existing well stock and reduce well abandonment costs to maximise reserves, sustain production and optimise basin activity.



UKCS Decom Cost and Performance Update

This report reveals the cost estimate for the decommissioning of wells and infrastructure on the UK Continental Shelf.



UKCS Decom Benchmarking Report

This report provides insights into UKCS decommissioning performance and underpins the drive to continuously improve planning, execution readiness, delivery and performance.